

Subcommittee for Pit Beautification: Fixing a Pit-iful Disaster

A Project Proposal by Leslie Knope

Executive Summary

I am proposing the creation of an exploratory subcommittee within the Parks Department to explore the possibility of turning the pit on Lot 48 into a park.

Background

The pit in Lot 48 is a danger to the citizens of Pawnee. A local man named Andy Dwyer fell into the pit and broke both of his legs. I also recently fell into the pit and believe that I may have broken my clavicle. How many more people need to fall into this pit before somebody does something about it?

Jack London once said, "I would rather be a superb meteor, every atom of me in magnificent glow, than a sleepy and permanent planet." I am ready to be that meteor. I cannot simply sit back and watch as this pit continues to menace the citizens of my town. Since nobody else has stepped up to fix this pit, I intend to do it myself.

And I don't intend to simply stop with filling in the pit. I don't want to simply turn the lot from something harmful into something neutral. I want to turn it into something beautiful. I want to build something that all of the citizens of Pawnee can enjoy. I want to build a beautiful new park in the same spot where the pit once stood. This project could be the crowning achievement of the department. This could be our Hoover Dam.

Solution

My suggestion is to put together a subcommittee called the Subcommittee for Pit Beautification. This will be an ad hoc exploratory subcommittee that will be designed to explore realistic options that would allow us to turn the pit into a park. We would also explore how to obtain the necessary funding for the completion of this project. The initial purpose of this subcommittee would be to discover and document potential options. Once we have a preferred solution in place, we would open discussions about extending the scope of this subcommittee to include the actual implementation of that solution. I believe that we will be able to create a concrete plan

for turning the pit into a park and obtain the budget for that plan within 15 months. Or 13 months if the other subcommittee members agree to work on weekends.

Resources Required

The only resources initially required for the subcommittee will be the time of its members. I would nominate myself as the chairwoman of the subcommittee. For the initial membership, I would also like to include Tom Haverford, Mark Brendanawicz, April Ludgate, and Ann Perkins. They would participate in the subcommittee as part of their regular work activities (aside from Ann, who has already agreed to participate on a volunteer basis), so we would not need to adjust the budget to provide additional compensation to the members. The only cost would be slightly reduced capacity for working on the Parks Department's other activities. But I believe it is worth the trade-off when considering the immense value that this new park would add to the community.

Additional resources would likely be required when trying to actually implement the subcommittee's plan. However, we do not plan to take these resources away from the Parks Department's usual budget. I will plan to present our plan at the master plan meeting in order to obtain the increased funding needed to complete this project. So moving forward with this project should present minimal risk to the Parks Department's current operations.

Conclusion

The goal of this department is to enrich the lives of Pawnee's citizens. We have the chance to do that with this project. We could turn a dangerous pit into a wonderful park. And it all starts with the creation of this subcommittee. Just give me this chance, and I promise that I will not let the citizens of Pawnee down.